

## Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USDELMBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 3731

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR: JULY 2 WG DISCUSSION OF DATA

REF: STATE 139843

SUMMARY: AS REPORTED USNATO 3675, ALLIES ACCEPTED NEW WP DATA FOR MBFR PURPOSES. ACCEPTANCE FOLLOWED LENGTHY DISCUSSION INVOLVING QUESTION OF HOW PROCEDURES FOR ACHIEVING NATO AGREED FIGURES CAN AND SHOULD BE IMPROVED, AS WELL AS NEED FOR STUDYING IMPLICATIONS OF NEW FIGURES IN LIGHT OF FORTHCOMING AHG PROPOSALS TO CONSIDER REDEFINITION OF GROUND FORCES. END SUMMARY

1. CHAIRMAN (SMITH) OPENED DISCUSSION BY NOTING U.S. HAD FURTHER CONTRIBUTION ON WP DATA, AND INVITED U.S. REP TO INTRODUCE NEW INFORMATION. U.S. REP CIRCULATED REF A EXPLANATORY FIGURES AND SAID THAT HE HOPED EXPLANATIONS WOULD LEAD TO RAPID ACCEPTANCE OF ALL NEW DATA ON WP FORCES FOR MBFR PURPOSES. IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT SECRET

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ALLIES IN BRUSSELS AND VIENNA WORK WITH BEST AVAILABLE DATA FOR WHATEVER CURRENT AND NEAR TERM PURPOSES THAT MIGHT BE REQUIRED.

2. DUTCH REP (VAN DE GRAAFF) SAID THAT WG SHOULD NOT ENDORSE ANY

NEW FIGURES AT THIS TIME. DUTCH OPPOSED IDEA THAT ALLIES SHOULD USE NEW FIGURES FOR ANY PURPOSES UNTIL ALL ASPECTS HAD BEEN THOROUGHLY REVIEWED AND EXPLAINED. PROPER PLACE TO THIS WAS IN INTELLIGENCE CONFERENCE WHERE ALL ALLIED EXPERTS COULD FULLY UNDERSTAND WHERE TOTALS CAME FROM. AS A RESULT, HE PROPOSED THAT NEXT TO LAST SENTENCE IN PARA 3 OF WG'S REPORT TO THE SPC (TEXT USNATO 3541) BE RECAST TO REFLECT THE EXACT OPPOSITE OF ITS CURRENT MEANING.

3. TURNING TO IMS INTELLIGENCE REP'S PROPOSAL AT LAST MEETING TO SEEK OUT-OF-COMMITTEE NATO AGREEMENT ON AIR ELEMENTS, (SEE PARA12 OF USNATO 3526), DUTCH REP SAID THAT THE HAGUE FOUND THIS A PIECE-MEAL APPROACH, UNAPPEALING IN VIEW OF THE DIFFICULTY OF ACCOUNTING FOR GROUND AND AIR ELEMENTS OF THE WP AIR DEFENSE STRUCTURE. ALSO HE CLAIMED THAT A PARTIAL OUT-OF-COMMITTEE APPROACH WOULD SET AN UNDESIRABLE PRECEDENT.

4. H CHAIRMAN IMMEDIATELY RESPONDED THAT DUTCH CONCERNS APPEARED TO BE GETTING BACK TO QUESTION OF USE OF FIGURES, BUT SEEMED ALSO TO BE COMBINED WITH AN APPARENT CONFUSION BETWEEN CONCEPT OF FIGURES BEING ACCEPTED FOR MBFR PURPOSES ONLY AND FORMAL NATO AGREED FIGURES. ON FORMER POINT, HE STRESSED THAT ALL ALLIES HAD AGREED THAT WG WAS NOT CONSIDERING USE OF FIGURES, MERELY WHETHER THESE FIGURES WERE THE ONES WHICH COULD BE USED. IF DUTCH HELD TO VIEW THAT ALLIES COULD NOT ENDORSE LATEST WP DATA AGREED TO AT CONSIDERABLE EFFORT BY THREE PRINCIPAL INTELLIGENCE PRODUCERS, THEY WOULD BE EFFECTIVELY FRUSTRATING NECESSARY ALLIANCE WORK AT ALL LEVELS OF THE MBFR PROCESS. MORE IMPORTANT DUTCH WOULD DENY ALLIES INFORMATION

ON ACTUAL WP MANPOWER STRENGTHS AND FORCE THEM TO HOLD TO OBSOLETE FIGURES. THIS, HE BELIEVED, WAS A SERIOUS STEP TO TAKE AND HOPED DUTCH HAD CONSIDERED IT FULLY. ON QUESTION OF DEFINING NEW FIGURES, HE ADDED THAT ALLIES HAD COME TO ACCEPT IDEA OF "DATA FOR MBFR PURPOSES," AND BELIEVED THAT INSISTANCE ON ENDORSING NEW FIGURES ONLY AFTER THEY WERE NATO AGREED WAS NO REVOKING AN APPROACH WITH WHICH THE DUTCH HAD ASSOCIATED THEMSELVES.

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5. CANADIAN REP (BECKETT) SAID THAT IT WAS INCREASINGLY CLEAR TO HIS AUTHORITIES THAT PROCESS WHEREBY NATO AGREES TO WP FIGURES IS "IN A MESS", AND DOES NOT RESPOND AT ALL TO REQUIREMENTS NOW FACED BY ALLIANCE AS IT ENGAGES IN MBFR NEGOTIATIONS. SOMETHING MUST BE DONE TO ADJUST THE SYSTEM TO MEET REAL-WORLD OPERATIONAL NEEDS. IT SEEMED ABSURD FOR WG TO GO THROUGH URGENT, INVARIABLY DIFFICULT AND TIME CONSUMING ACTION ON DATA FOR MBFR PURPOSES, AND THEN HAVE THE PRODUCT OF THEIR ACTIVITY LARGELY RECONFIRMED AT SOME LATER TIME BY THE NATO INTELLIGENCE PROCESS. IF NOTHING IS DONE TO THIS PROCESS, THE ALLIANCE WILL BE INCREASINGLY DEPENDENT ON FIGURES ACCEPTED IN THE WG, WITH NATO AGREED FIGURES FALLING INCREASINGLY BEHIND BOTH IN TIME AND RELEVANCE.

6. TURNING TO U.S. (REFTEL) HANDOUT, CANADIAN REP SAID THAT IT DOES NOT MEET NEED FOR REVISING ANNEX B OF AC/276D(74)5 IN ANY WAY, AND COULD HARDLY BE CONSIDERED AS A BASIS ON WHICH NATO INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITIE COULD ASK FOR AGREEMENT FROM CAPITALS. HE RECALLED, HOWEVER, THAT U.S. REP HAD STATED AT PREVIOUS MEETING THAT U.S. WOULD BE PREPARED TO SET FORTH SPECIFICS AND DETAILS OF NEW FIGURES AT NEXT APPROPRIATE INTELLIGENCE CONFERENCE. CANADA WELCOMED THIS APPROACH, ESPECIALLY SINCE IT IMPLIED THAT U.S. BELIEVED ANALYSIS OF DETAILS WAS NOT APPROPRIATE FUNCTION OF WG.

7. ON NEW FIGURES THEMSELVES, CANDIAN REP SAID HE COULD ACCEPT THEM, BUT WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONSTO SAY IN WG AND SPC THAT WHG SHOULD NOT BE AUTHORIZED TO USE DATA IN NEGOTIATIONS UNTIL ALLIES HAD EVALUATED IMPLICATIONS FOR THEIR USE. THIS WAS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT SHOULD ALLIES CONSIDER ANY REDEFINITIO OF GROUND FORCES, AS NOW APPEARED TO BE THE CASE IN THE AHG. STUDYOF IMPLICATIONS

MEANT THAT DETAILED UNIT BREAKDOWNS OF WP TOTALS SHOULD BE AVAIL-  
ABLE. THIS, IF U.S. APPROACH WAS TO BE FOLLOWED, COULD ONLY COME  
AFTER A NATO INTELLIGENCE CONFERENCE.

8. FRG (REP (DZIALAS) MADE INSTRUCUTED STATEMENT SAYING THAT BONN COULD ACCEPT FIGURES ON THE SPECIFIC UNDERSTANDING THAT ITS ACCEPT-  
ANCE WOULD NOT PREJUDICE IN ANY WAY WHAT MIGHT BE INTRODUCED OR  
AGREED TO IN MC 224 CONFERENCE. FRG WISHED THIS POINT TO BE FIRMLY  
REGISTERED IN WG'S COVER REPORT. IF OTHER ALLIES AGREED WITH THIS  
APPROACH THEN HE COULDN'T SEE WHY THEY SHOULD NOT ALSO ACCEPT FIGURES.

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LATTER, HE POINTED OUT WERE DEVELOPED AFTER CONSIDERABLE EFFORT  
AND CONSULTATION AMONG THREE MAJOR INTELLIGENCE PRODUCES. ALL  
THREE ALLIES COULD VOUCH FOR THEIR ACCURACY. HE THEREFORE URGED  
THAT DUTCH REP CHANGE HIS POSITION. IF DUTCH DISAGREED WITH USE  
OF FIGURES, THIS WAS ANOTHER QUESTION ENTIRELY, AND SPC (NOT WORKING  
GROUP) WAS PLACE TO MAKE SUCH A POINT. FINALLY, HE SUPPORTED  
CANADIAN' REP'S VIEW ON THE NEED TO REEXAMINE PROCESS WHEREBY NATO  
REACHES AGREEMENT ON WP FIGURES. IN BONN'S VIEW, A RIGID TIMETABLE  
OF MARCH AND SEPTEMBER REVIEWS (THE LATTER ONLY CONCERNED WITH  
GROUND FORCES) PROVIDES INADEQUATE SUPPORT FOR THE ALLIANCE'S  
NEGOTIATING NEEDS IN MBFR.

9. CHAIRMAN MADE PLEA TO DUTCH REP TO MODIFY HIS POSITION. LATTER  
SAID HE HAD TAKEN NOTE OF ALLIED VIEWS EXPRESSED AND WAS PREPARED  
TO ACCEPT FIGURES WITHIN THE CAVEATS NOTED AND IF LANGUAGE IN NEXT TO  
LAST SETENCE OF PARA 3 IN COVER NOTE COULD BE MODIFIED SO AS  
NOT TO IMPLY A WG ENDORSEMENT OF FUTURE USE OF FIGURES. AFTER  
LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF ALTERNATIVE FORMULATIONS, WG FINALLY AGREED  
TO DROP SENTENCE ENTIRELY, SINCE WHAT THEY WISH TO CONVEY TO SPC IS  
ALREADY CONTAINED IN EARLIER SENTENCES. NEW REPORT WILL NOW GO FORWARD

TO SPC AS AN AGREED "D" DOCUMENT. ANNEXES WILL INCLUDE

NEW WP AND NATO AIR AND GROUND MANPOWER TOTALS, AGREED SSM AND HELICOPTER PERSONNEL FIGURES, AND EXPLANATORY TABLES SHOWING LATEST CHANGES IN WP STRENGTHS. DETAILED UNIT BREAKDOWN (ALONG LINES OF OLD ANNEX B) WILL BE DEVELOPED WHEN STAFF GROUP HAS RECEIVED SUFFICIENT DETAILED INPUT (INCLUDING WP AIR DEFENSE BREAKDOWNS) TO ENABLE IT TO PRODUCE NEW TABLES. WE WILL TRANSMIT NEW REPORT WHEN CIRCULATED.

10. COMMENT: IN VIEW OF EMPHATIC CANADIAN AND FRG VIEWS THAT ENTIRE PROCESS WHEREBY NATO AGREES TO WP DATA NEEDS TO BE ADJUSTED AND MADE MORE RESPONSIVE TO MBFR NEEDS, USDELMC BELIVES IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR THE U.S. DELEGATES TO THE MC/161 T.O.R. (9-10 JULY) CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEM OF RESPONSIVENESS AND METHODS TO SOLVE IT, WITH THE AIM OF BRINGING THE ENTIRE PROBLEM BEFORE THE ANNUAL MC/161 CONFERENCE FOR RESOLUTION.  
RUMSFELD

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